

Circular 206:04:14



To: Club Presidents
Club Captains

Cc: Club Gear and Equipment Officers
Club Secretaries
Club Power Craft Officers

From: Darren McLeod – Director, Lifesaving Services

Date: 2 April 2014

Subject: VESEP Lifejackets Update

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
Lifesaving Operations on 03 9676 6930 or email lifesavingoperations@lifesavingvictoria.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au/circulars

As previously advised, in the most recent round of the Victorian Government's Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP), Life Saving Victoria (LSV) secured funding to provide clubs and lifesaving services with a number of Lifejackets for use in IRB Training and Operations.

This initiative is intended to minimise the financial impact on clubs from the new regulations mandating Lifejacket use in all IRB activities. It is acknowledged it may not provide for every lifejacket a club requires, and clubs may continue to use alternate lifejackets. We are working towards making a range available for purchase for future seasons.

Each club will by now have been contacted by their Volunteer Support Officer to seek delivery arrangements.

The intent was to make available a range of sizes for both IRB Drivers and Crew, and RWC operations (as applicable).

The minimum allocation per club, intended to support the operations of up to two IRBs, is 12 units;

- 1 Small
- 1 Medium
- 3 Large
- 3 Extra Large
- 2 XX Large
- 2 XXX Large

Clubs that have had more than two IRBs pass gear inspection in the 2013/14 season, will receive a further allocation for their third and fourth IRB's only. Clubs who operate an RWC will receive a further allocation for these craft. These Lifejackets are not suitable for Marine Rescue services and therefore have not been included in the allocation.

The lifejacket was trialled extensively last year and demonstrated at LSOC Council and other lifesaving forums, with feedback taken on board and included in the final product. Sizing is very fitted and therefore we have erred to larger sizes, whilst also making smaller ones available.

A radio harness can be worn over the top of the lifejacket, and an add-on radio holster is in development.

We encourage all clubs and services to start making use of lifejackets in IRBs immediately they are available.

